

DR. S. JOHN (Surgeon-General): (a) A trial is being made to find water by tube wells. Large scale improvement of the tank will be made only if the present experiments prove a failure.

(b) In view to the answer to part (a) this does not arise at present.

*Leper Colony at Noornad.*

28. MR. C. S. LEKSHMANA AIYAR: Will the Government be pleased to state:

(a) the area of land acquired in 1933 for the use of the leper colony at Noornad, and the cost;

(b) whether it is in contemplation to acquire 1500 acres of land to the south of the colony for extension of the premises of the colony and for providing sewage treatment;

(c) whether lands required additionally are cheaper at Noornad than lands at Chirayinkil, Karunagapally and Shertallai; and

(d) if they are not cheaper, whether Government would consider the desirability of opening additional colonies at Chirayinkil, Karunagapalli and Shertallai (like District Hospitals) as occasion requires so as to avert danger to neighbouring population when strikes and rebellions break out?

DR. S. JOHN (Surgeon-General): (a) 133 acres at a cost of Rs. 26,800.

(b) As the surface water from the sanatorium flows into the paddy fields nearby the acquisition of the area covered by the paddy fields and adjacent slopes (about 200 acres) is under consideration.

(c) The comparative cost has not been ascertained.

(d) In view of the answer to part (c) this does not arise.

*Leper Colony at Noornad.*

29. MR. C. S. LEKSHMANA AIYAR: Will the Government be pleased to state:

(a) the number of patients in the leper colony at Noornad at the close of 1120 (16-8-1945);

(b) the number transferred from Trivandrum in 1933 to the colony; and

(c) whether if any number above 500 be housed in Noornad alone there is in view of their temper, alikelihood of strikes and rebellions breaking out at times (like what happens in Central Prison now and then)?

DR. S. JOHN (Surgeon-General): (a) 458

(b) Patients were not transferred from Trivandrum to Noornad in 1933. But 242 patients were transferred in 1934.

(c) No such difficulty is anticipated.